GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:449
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2002
REVISION OF CROP SIZE OF TOBACCO
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU;M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 13 million kgs. of unauthorized tobacco crop size has been permitted without imposing any penalty by relaxing the rules;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any provision in the Tobacco Board Rules to relax/revise the crop size without amending Rules in the mid-season;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons for revising the crop size in the mid season;

(f) whether these steps are not going to give remunerative price to authorized growers; and

(g) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a)to (e) The crop size of Flue Cured Virginia tobacco of Karnataka was fixed at 42.08 M. Kg in March-April,2002. This has subsequently been revised to 50 M. Kg with allowance for an additional 10%. This has been done in accordance with Tobacco Board Rules. This has been done in response to a detailed estimation in the Inter Agency report of a crop size of 58.7 M. Kg , revised demand projected by Indian Tobacco Association and demands from growers of Karnataka supported by Government of Karnataka.

(f) to (g) Till 9.12. 2002, 26.86 M. Kgs of Flue Cured Virginia tobacco has been auctioned at an average price of Rs 41.86.

N.B. M. Kg is Million Kg